

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 COME-00
NSF-01 L-03 EB-08 NSCE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 INT-05
SMI-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 ICAE-00 SS-15
SSO-00 INRE-00 SIG-03 /101 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WLSULLIVAN:WERB:WLB
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB
CNO/ISA - CAPT. L. MAY (DRAFT)
ARA/CAR - D. PIERCE

-----092864 112125Z /64

O 112024Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000
CNO IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174702

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, TOCY, BF, US

SUBJECT: UNESCO MARINE PROJECT POLYMODE

REF: (A) NASSAU 1455 (B) NASSAU 1458

1. DOD HAS SERIOUS OBJECTIONS TO AKADEMIK VERNADSKY'S
PROPOSED OPERATIONS IN THE TONGUE OF THE OCEAN DURING
THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED.

2. THE NAVY WILL BE CONDUCTING SCHEDULED OPERATIONS
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DURING THIS PERIOD WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE CANCELLED DUE
TO VERNADSKY'S PRESENCE AND WHICH WILL CAUSE UNDESIRABLE
DISRUPTION OF PLANNED PROJECTS AND CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE.

3(A). IN VIEW OF PERTURBATION IN AUTEC'S TONGUE OF THE
OCEAN OPERATIONS WITHOUT ADEQUATE ADVANCE NOTICE, REQUEST
GCOB EITHER SUGGEST ONE-DAY SEMINAR BE HELD IN PORT, OR,

IF GCOB IS INTERESTED IN SHORT CRUISE FOR ITS TEACHERS AS PART OF SEMINAR, SUGGEST THAT CRUISE BE CONDUCTED IN SHALLOW WATER AREAS OF MORE IMMEDIATE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST TO BAHAMIANS.

(B) PROPOSED ONE-DAY SEMINAR ABOARD VERNADSKY INVOLVING BAHAMIAN TEACHERS WAS APPARENTLY ADDED AS ADJUNCT TO

IOCARIBE TRAINING PROJECT. HOWEVER, SCOTT HAS NO RPT NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PLANS TO GO TO SEA DURING ONE-DAY SEMINAR. IT WOULD NOT BE UNUSUAL, HOWEVER, FROM SCIENTIFIC POINT OF VIEW TO MAKE A SHORT CRUISE FROM NASSAU TO BIMINI AND TONGUE OF THE OCEAN DURING SUCH A ONE-DAY SEMINAR. BE THAT AS IT MAY, WHETHER OR NOT THAT IS DONE IS ENTIRELY A MATTER FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN GCOB AND AKADEMIK VERNADSKY. IOC HAS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO SAY ABOUT WHETHER THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR SHOULD INCLUDE TIME AT SEA, AND IF SO WHERE. AFTER ONE-DAY SEMINAR VERNADSKY WOULD PROCEED TO SEA FOR CONTINUATION OF SHORT IOCARIBE TRAINING PROJECT WITH PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED PARTICIPANTS.

4. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FYI AND MAY BE PASSED TO GCOB.

A. POLYMODE IS A PROGRAM EXECUTED UNDER THE BILATERAL US/SOVIET AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN WORLD OCEAN STUDIES. CONFIDENTIAL

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IT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A DATA BASE WHICH WILL ENABLE MARINE SCIENTISTS TO ATTEMPT TO QUANTIFY THE ROLE OF LARGE EDDIES IN THE GENERAL CIRCULATION OF THE OCEAN AND THE COMPILATION OF A QUASI-SYNOPTIC WEATHER MAP OF THE OCEAN. BOTH U.S. AND SOVIET RESEARCH VESSELS ARE UTILIZED IN THE RESEARCH, WHICH IS CENTERED IN THE AREA AROUND 29 DEGREES N, 70 DEGREES W. NO AMERICANS ARE PRESENTLY ABOARD AKADEMIK VERNADSKY FOR THIS LEG OF THE POLYMODE PROJECT. POLYMODE HAS NO RPT NO DIRECT CONNECTION TO UNESCO OR IOC.

B. INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC) IS A 99-MEMBER SEMI-AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHED BY UNESCO TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION WITH A VIEW TO LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE NATURE AND RESOURCES OF THE OCEANS THROUGH THE CONCERTED ACTION OF ITS MEMBERS. ONE OF THE IOC PROGRAMS IS THE IOC ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND ADJACENT REGIONS (IOCARIBE). IOCARIBE IS INTENDED TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL PROGRAM IN THE AREA WHICH WILL COORDINATE AND ENCOURAGE MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS. AN AMERICAN, ROBERT LANKFORD, IS THE IOC REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR IOCARIBE WITH HEADQUARTERS IN

TRINIDAD.

C. THE SOVIETS OFFERED TO IOC TO MAKE SHIP TIME ABOARD
AKADEMIK VERNADSKY AVAILABLE FOR A SHORT IOCARIBE TRAIN-
ING PROJECT FOLLOWING PRESENT LEG OF POLYMODE. THIS IS
NOT AN UNUSUAL OFFER FROM THE SOVIETS. IOC SECRETARY
DESMOND SCOTT IN PARIS DIRECTED LANKFORD NOT RPT NOT TO
ISSUE OFFICIAL INVITATIONS TO ANY IOCARIBE TRAINING
PARTICIPANTS UNTIL HE COULD OBTAIN FROM GCOB CONFIRMATION

THAT IT HAD GIVEN PERMISSION TO SOVIETS FOR PROJECTED
NASSAU PORT CALL. HOWEVER, SOVIETS RESPONSIBLE FOR
OBTAINING PORT CALL PERMISSION. SCOTT APPROACHED GCOB
HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OF PORT
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CALL CLEARANCE TO SOVIETS, WHICH HE SAYS HE HAS NOW
RECEIVED. LANKFORD ALSO VISITED NASSAU TO BRIEF GCOB
OFFICIALS.

D. IOC MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY NATION WITHIN UN SYSTEM.
MEMBERSHIP CAN BE OBTAINED THROUGH SIMPLE DECLARATION AND
DOES NOT RPT NOT ENTAIL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. IN VIEW
OF IMPORTANCE OF OCEANS TO GCOB THEY MIGHT CONSIDER IOC
MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING IOCARIBE MEMBERSHIP. IOCARIBE WILL
BE MEETING AUGUST 7-11 IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA. WE WOULD
BE GLAD TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IF
DESIRED OR IT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM SCOTT OR LANKFORD.
IF GCOB HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF IOC SCOTT MIGHT HAVE TAKEN
THIS MATTER UP WITH GCOB IOC REP AND SOME OF CONFUSION
MIGHT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OCEANOGRAPHY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, AKADEMIK VERNADSKY, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE174702
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WLSULLIVAN:WERB:MJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780284-0325
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780773/aaaacjgg.tel
Line Count: 151
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 69844977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NASSAU 1455, 78 NASSAU 1458
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2047505
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNESCO MARINE PROJECT POLYMODE
TAGS: MILI, TOCY, BF, US, UR, POLYMODE
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/69844977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014